

Learning Lab and became a participant in the Youth Employment and Training Program. He participated in the summer work experience program as a cashier and stock person with the Kalkaska Interfaith Resources, where he gained valuable employment and earned a training wage to help with living expenses. Jordan found that he was limited by his lack of a diploma and made up his mind to obtain his GED, which he received on March 30, 2006.

**Industry from which Client was laid off:**

**Length of time between contact with and placement in new job:**

**New job placement:** Jordan is planning on entering the Army National Guard in June and he knows he could not have done so without his GED.

**Impact of new job on the client's quality of life:** His recruiter, states that Jordan will receive a \$20,000 enlistment bonus and GI bill benefits to pay for college just for signing up and going. When asked what education meant to him, Jordan states, *"Without my GED, I was going no where. Now I have options."*

**Contact information of client:**

**Contact person at Michigan Works! Agency for additional information:** Janie Frederick or Elaine Wood, Northwest Michigan Council of Governments (231) 929-5000

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**Name of Client:** Beverly Reynolds has been employed with her present employer for several years, but had been unable to take the CNA training due to the financial strain it would place on her family.

**Industry from which Client was laid off:**

04-052106-01

**Length of time between contact with and placement in new job:** Beverly heard about the OPEN Program from her employer and decided to seek assistance. The OPEN Program was instrumental in assisting Beverly in eliminating several financial and personal barriers, as well providing her a referral to the Incumbent Worker Training Program to further her nurses aid training. Beverly enrolled in the CNA training, completed the program and received her state certification.

**New job placement:**

**Impact of new job on the client's quality of life:** As the OPEN Program supported her through the process, the employer and immediate supervisor were an integral part in Beverly's achieving her dream. She was promoted to CNA just as soon as she received her state certification, and her salary was increased with retroactive pay. Beverly's new position has had a significant impact on her life, it has allowed her to grow as a person, and her self-esteem has improved, as well as her family life.

**Contact information of client:**

**Contact person at Michigan Works! Agency for additional information:** Ms. Connie  
Bellows, Kent County Retention MiRSA, (616) 234-3428

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